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#5/Election

M. WATTS  
1/15/03

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: 4110/OK066

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Akira Unosawa et al.

Serial No.: 09/996,298

Art Unit: 3711

Confirmation No.: 4018

Filed: November 28, 2001

Examiner: Stephen L. Blau

Title: GOLF SHAFT, FORMING METHOD THEREFOR AND GOLF CLUB

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RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated December 6, 2002, kindly consider the following remarks. Claims 1-49 are pending and at issue.

The Examiner has required restriction of this application among the claims of:

Group I, claims 1-45, drawn to a shaft and method of making a shaft with metal wires; and

Group II, claims 46-49, drawn to a method of making a shaft.

Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction requirement.

Claims 46-49 recite methods for preparing the main layer recited in claims 1-45.

See page 28, 4 lines from the bottom of the page, to page 29, three lines from the bottom of the page. A careful search of the prior art relevant to the claims of Group I would develop the prior art relevant to the claims of Group II, since the main layer produced by the methods recited in the claims of Group II may be used in the golf shafts and methods for preparing them recited in the claims of Group I.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that the Examiner's restriction of the claims is unwarranted and respectfully request that the Restriction be withdrawn and the claims be examined together in this application.

In order to fully responsive, applicants hereby provisionally elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-45, for further prosecution.

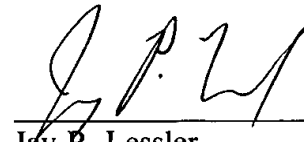
If the claims of Group I are elected, the Examiner has further required election of a single type of metal wire alignment, a single location on the shaft, and a single metal layer structure from those listed in the December 6, 2002 Office Action.

Applicants hereby elect Figure 1 as the type of metal wire alignment, the grip as the location on the shaft, and Figures 3 and 8 as the metal layer structure.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.P. 21", written over a horizontal line.

Jay P. Lessler  
Reg. No. 41,151  
Attorney for Applicants

DARBY & DARBY  
Post Office Box 5257  
New York, NY 10150-5257  
Phone (212) 527-7700